relative to the maleimide and, from 0.0001 to 1% of at least one secondary antioxidant selected from the group consisting of phosphorous esters, phosphoric esters, phosphine, and phosphoric acid amides relative to the maleimide.

9. (New) The method according to claim 3, wherein the acrylonitrile solution has a water content of not more than 0.3% by weight.

10. (New) The method according to claim 8, which comprises the steps of:

preparing a maleimide mixture by adding the primary antioxidant and the secondary antioxidant to maleimide in a molten state and, subsequently dissolving said maleimide containing mixture in acrylonitrile.

11. (New) The method according to claim 8, comprising:

adding a primary antioxidant and a secondary antioxidant to acrylonitrile and, dissolving molten maleimide therein.

12. (New) The method according to claim 3, wherein a total amount of azobenzene and N,N-diphenyl hydrazine is not more than 500 ppm.

13. (New) The method according to claim 3, wherein the concentration of maleimide in acrylonitrile is between 40 to 90% by weight relative to that of the acrylonitrile.

14. (New) The method according to claim 3, wherein said gaseous portion comprises molecular oxygen and an inert gas selected from the group consisting of nitrogen, carbon dioxide, helium and argon.

15. (New) The method according to claim 14, wherein said inert gas is nitrogen.